

## **Alternative Breaks International Trip Description/requirements Working Boys Center in Quito, Ecuador**

### **Section 1**

#### **Mission of the Alternative Break program:**

The Alternative Break program is a faith based program responding to the call to work for peace and justice in the world through domestic and international service and learning opportunities for the students, faculty and staff of Le Moyne College. The goal of the program is for participants to deepen their relationship with God through:

- sharing in the lives of those living in poverty through short-term service projects and living experiences;
- reflecting critically on issues of faith and justice;
- being exposed to the wonderful diversity of God's creations through an encounter with those living in a culture different from their own;
- offering their skills, resources, and gifts for the purpose of creating a more just world;
- Campus Ministry's mission to integrate faith and justice, a vision of spiritual life articulated in the gospel message and the church's call for a "preferential option for the poor";
- opportunities to implement service/immersion experience into social justice endeavors back home.

### **Section 2**

#### **Selection process**

A successful applicant will complete the following guidelines:

- Request an application from Beth Scanlon at [scanlela@lemoyne.edu](mailto:scanlela@lemoyne.edu) or download one from the Campus Ministry website at <http://www.lemoyne.edu/tabid/3048/default.aspx>.
- Fill out all parts of the application as thoroughly as possible.
- Ask someone who knows you well to complete the reference form.
- Applications and reference forms are due to Campus Ministry on Monday, March 31.
- You will be invited to sign up for an interview. Final decisions will be announced on Friday, April 11.

### **Section 3**

#### **Site description**

Travel for two weeks to the Working Boys Center located in Quito, Ecuador. The WBC works with the whole family to change the cycle of poverty through education. Part of our time there will be spent shadowing the year-round volunteers in the classroom. The team from Le Moyne will spend a day cleaning or painting at the center as well as participating in a "minga" (kind of like an old fashion barn raising) at the home of one of the centers participants. The team will engage with the children in a variety of activities ranging from playing on the play ground to tutoring to assisting in classrooms. The website for the center is [www.workingboyscenter.org](http://www.workingboyscenter.org).

### **Section 4:**

#### **Financially Responsibility**

Campus Ministry will do our best to help you fundraise in the months leading up to this service experience. Ultimately you are responsible for the cost of the trip. Your personal fundraising initiative and creativity will go furthest in helping you to meet your goal. Everyone is asked to come up with a personal fundraising plan. The following bullet points outline the different deadlines that need to be met by participants.

Please contact Beth Scanlon at [scanlela@lemoyne.edu](mailto:scanlela@lemoyne.edu) with any questions.

- The approximate cost of the trip is - \$1,940
- Everyone must assist in the Ecuador Auction in late October and the preparation leading up to the event.
- Everyone must participate in the letter writing campaign.
- Fundraising Deadlines:
  - Wednesday, April 16: \$200 deposit due
  - Wednesday, April 16: the submission of a fundraising plan
  - Wednesday, April 16: conversation with Beth Scanlon if you are requesting financial assistance.
  - Monday, September 8: letter writing campaign begun
  - Friday, September 19: \$500 is due.
  - Friday, October 17: \$500 is due.
  - Friday, November 7: remaining amount is due
- Limited financial assistance is available. You will need to apply for assistance and a determination will be made on a case by case basis.
- Please understand that all money turned in to Campus Ministry is **non-refundable**.
- In the event that a trip is cancelled for unforeseen reasons, Campus Ministry will do everything possible to refund you the full cost. However, there are some expenses that might be lost and beyond Campus Ministry's control.

## Section 5:

### The Preparation Process

In being selected to participate in the international service-immersion team, you are required to:

- attend team meetings in the Campus Ministry conference room throughout the course of the fall semester:
  - Weekly meetings will be held on Sunday afternoons from 2:00 – 3:30 in the Drescher Community Room located in the Chapel.
- You will be required to assist in all of the team fundraising activities.
- You will be expected to research a topic (ie. Cultural norms in Ecuador, Ecuadorian government, the values of the Working Boys Center....) and present that information to the team at the weekly meetings.
- Shots and vaccines: required – Hepatitis A and an updated tetanus shot.

Understand that not fulfilling these preparation requirements will jeopardize your ability to travel with the team.

**APPLICATION DUE DATE: March 31**

**Email a copy of your application campusministry@lemoyne.edu.**

**Individual interviews begin on April 2**

You will be notified when to sign up for an interview.

Please contact Beth Scanlon at [scanlela@lemoyne.edu](mailto:scanlela@lemoyne.edu) with any questions.